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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

TRANSMITTAL FORM

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

3

Application Number

10/822,607

Filing Date

April 12, 2004

First Named Inventor

Paliard et al.

Art Unit

1648

Examiner Name

Li, Bao Q

Attorney Docket Number

PP001612.0011 (2300-1612.11)

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address | <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): |
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name

Robins & Pasternak LLP

Signature

Printed name

Roberta L. Robins

Date

April 13, 2006

Reg. No.

33,208

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

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Atty Dkt No. PP001612.0011
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

PALIARD et al.

Confirmation No.: 3674

Serial No.: 10/822,607

Group Art Unit: 1648

Filing Date: April 12, 2004

Examiner: Li, Bao Q

Title: ACTIVATION OF HCV-SPECIFIC T CELLS

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement dated March 13, 2006. The Examiner therein required election of one of the following groups of claims:

Group I. Claims 45-48, drawn to an isolated and purified polynucleotide encoding a fusion protein consisting essentially of an NS3, an NS4, an NS5a, an NS5b and a core polypeptide of HCV, and compositions comprising the fusion protein¹;

Group II. Claim 53, drawn to a method for activating CD4+ T cells;

Group III. Claim 54, drawn to a method for activating CD8+ T cells; and

Group IV. Claim 55, drawn to a method for activating CD4+/CD8+ T cells.

Claims 49-52 and 56-52 were considered linking claims, linking the inventions of Groups II, III and IV.

Applicants elect to proceed with the claims of Group I, claims 45-48, without

¹ Applicant notes claims 44-48 were designated as belonging to Group I. Claim 44 was previously cancelled. Accordingly, applicant assumes the Examiner intended claims 45-48.

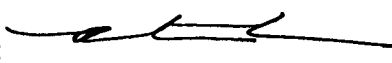
traverse. Applicants expressly reserve their right under 35 USC §121 to file one or more divisional applications directed to the nonelected subject matter during the pendency of this application. Moreover, applicants understand that withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of allowable product claims will be rejoined in accordance with the provisions of MPEP §821.04.

Please direct all further communications in this application to:

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4/13/06

By: 
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